



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
27 June 2008

Original: English

Committee for Programme and Coordination

Forty-eighth session

9 June-3 July 2008

Agenda item 8

Adoption of the report of the Committee on its
forty-eighth session

Draft report

Rapporteur: Ms. Stefania Rosini (Italy)

Addendum

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2010-2011

(Item 3 (b))

Programme 16

Economic development in Europe

1. At its 15th meeting, on 20 June 2008, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered programme 16, Economic development in Europe, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/63/6 (Prog. 16)).
2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

3. Appreciation and support were expressed for the programme, including the subregional work of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE).
4. Support was expressed for the overall orientation of the programme, in particular activities related to the gender dimension of development. The view was expressed that that dimension should be maintained and strengthened and that a methodology of the approach to be applied by ECE for its implementation should be identified.
5. Satisfaction was expressed that ECE technical cooperation activities were directed at countries of eastern and south-eastern Europe, Central Asia and the



Caucasus. The new expected accomplishment on trade and transport facilitation under subprogramme 2, Transport, was welcomed.

6. Under subprogramme 1, Environment, the view was expressed that it would have been desirable to include an indicator of achievement to reflect the increased number of actions taken to promote public access to environmental information, as contained in the approved biennial programme plan for the period 2008-2009.

7. The focus of the proposed subprogramme 4, Economic cooperation and integration, was welcomed. It was noted, in that connection, that an enhanced reference in the subprogramme to new enterprises and emphasis on the increased number of new projects could have been useful. It was also observed that some proposed indicators of achievement for the proposed subprogramme could have been further refined.

8. The importance and relevance of subprogramme 3, Statistics, were emphasized. The view was expressed that international standards for statistics should continue to be formulated and be extended to an even wider audience.

9. The view was also expressed that certain elements of subprogramme 5, Sustainable energy, seemed difficult to quantify.

10. Clarification was sought in reference to the work of the Commission in the light of system-wide coherence.

Conclusions and recommendations

11. The Committee stressed the importance of advancing the gender dimension related to the role of women in the economy and, in that regard, recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to ensure that adequate consideration was given to such related issues.

12. The Committee expressed appreciation for the progress achieved in carrying out the activities to improve reliability and comparability of official statistics in subprogramme 3, Statistics, and recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to continue and to intensify the development of standardization of statistical data, which was relevant to the work of the Organization throughout the United Nations system, and access to such data by the public.

13. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 16, Economic development in Europe, of the proposed biennial programme plan, subject to the following modifications:

Subprogramme 7 Timber and forestry

Objective of the Organization

Replace the text with the following: "to strengthen the forest sector and its contribution to sustainable development throughout the ECE region".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (a) (iii), after "Sound use of wood", add
 " , for material and energy purposes,".

Strategy

Replace paragraphs 16.36 and 16.37 with the following and renumber subsequent paragraphs accordingly:

"16.36 The responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the Timber Section of the Trade and Timber Division. The subprogramme will aim at developing and applying analytical and monitoring tools, both on policy and on developments on the ground, collecting, validating and disseminating information and analysis, as well as stimulating the exchange of experience, best practices and joint efforts to measure progress. It will provide a platform for topical discussions, taking into account the changing policy environment, notably as regards climate change and bioenergy. Moreover, it will promote the role of forests in mitigating and adapting to climate change.

"16.37 The subprogramme will promote the sustainable management of forests as well as the sound and legal use of forest products, for raw material and energy, and forest services, based on appropriate policies and institutions. Priorities for 2010-2011 will be guided by the outcome of the fifth Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe, which placed emphasis through the Warsaw resolutions on "forests, wood and energy" and cross-sector coordination, including "forests and water." This has been affirmed by the outcome of the 2007-2008 strategic review, which placed major emphasis on climate change, bioenergy and wood mobilization. The importance of sustainable forest management, sector policies and institutions, forest products markets and cross-sectoral cooperation has been reaffirmed.

"16.38 While all countries benefit from international cooperation through the subprogramme, special attention will be paid to the countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, Central Asia and the Mediterranean region to implement sustainable forest management through capacity-building activities and by promoting their involvement in international activities in the region.

"16.39 As part of the strategy to implement the subprogramme, ECE will carry out its work in cooperation with FAO and the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe, and provide regional input to the United Nations Forum on Forests and the FAO Committee on Forestry.

"16.40 To support forest management, including the use of wood and forest products, that is sustainable from the ecological, economic and social points of view, it is necessary to maintain a good balance between those three aspects, based on a strong consensus about goals and methods among all stakeholders and to ensure that the strategy is well integrated into the policy framework of other sectors (the cross-sectoral approach). Achieving sustainable forest management is primarily a sovereign national

responsibility. However, regional international cooperation, and interregional cooperation, through the timber and forestry subprogramme and its partners, will contribute by developing and disseminating concepts and information, through communication, the sharing of experience and the defining of standard measurement tools (indicators) for sustainable forest management."

Legislative mandates

Under "General Assembly resolutions", add "62/98 Non-legally binding instruments on all types of forests".



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
30 June 2008

Original: English

Committee for Programme and Coordination

Forty-eighth session

9 June-3 July 2008

Agenda item 8

**Adoption of the report of the Committee
on its forty-eighth session**

Draft report

Rapporteur: Ms. Stefania Rosini (Italy)

Addendum

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2010-2011

(Item 3 (b))

Programme 14

Economic and social development in Africa

1. At its 15th meeting, on 20 June 2008, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered programme 14, Economic and social development in Africa, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/63/6 (Prog. 14)).
2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

3. Support was expressed for the overall orientation of the programme. It was noted with interest that the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) was taking advantage of lessons learned from implementation of the programme of work in prior bienniums, although the programme as narrated appeared ambitious, and therefore there was a need to concentrate on the activities that were attainable in the biennium 2010-2011. Clarification was sought as to how the challenges that were not overcome were taken into account in formulating the programme.
4. Support was also expressed for the priority given by ECA to support its subregional offices with a view to delivering and operating as subregional nodes for knowledge management and networking as well as meeting the specific development needs of each region. The view was expressed that, in view of the



information provided in part one: plan outline of the proposed strategic framework that Africa was the only region currently at risk of not achieving the Millennium Development Goals by 2015, programme 14, was necessary to assist African countries in formulating and implementing policies and programmes that would lead to sustainable economic growth and social development. The view was also expressed that Africa needed the international community to meet the challenges it faced. The view was further expressed regarding the need to intensify efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals within a reasonable period of time and the United Nations was called upon to cooperate with other organizations, in particular the African Union, so that results achieved would be greater than expected. Moreover, the view was expressed that results achieved would be much better if there was stronger cooperation, in particular through training seminars and vocational preparation.

5. The progress made by ECA to focus efforts on achieving coherence between global and regional priorities was critical for avoiding duplication and would be beneficial for Member States in the region. A query was raised as to how ECA was assisting regional organizations to harmonize their work programmes. A query was also raised as to whether there were complementarities and cooperation with other regional organizations. Queries were also raised about the measures being taken by ECA in assisting Member States to strengthen their capacity, in particular in remedying or improving their energy needs. The view was expressed that agriculture was one of the critical areas in which ECA needed to strengthen its efforts.

6. The experience of ECA partnership with the African Union through strengthened collaboration and the joint United Nations-African Union Declaration, which provided the framework for the 10-year capacity-building programme for the African Union and had enhanced the focus on promoting regional integration, was commended. The focus by ECA on meeting the special needs of Africa and emerging global challenges was welcomed, and ECA was urged to include the current food crisis in its priorities since all indications showed that the current crisis would not be temporary and that Africa would be most affected by the challenge.

7. A query was raised about the impact of security concerns on subprogramme 2 and the possibility of including that area of focus in the subprogramme.

8. Support was expressed for the focus of subprogramme 3 on the improvement of good governance practices to ensure participation in the development and governance processes and consolidate the foundations of sustainable development. The view was expressed that great importance was attached to the instruments that supported Member States in monitoring and assessing progress towards good governance, such as the *African Governance Report* referred to under subprogramme 3. The view was also expressed that a report on training in the area of good governance should be included as an indicator of achievement under subprogramme 3.

9. The continuous mainstreaming of gender concerns in subprogramme 6 and across the other subprogrammes of the programme was welcomed. Support was expressed for the mainstreaming of a gender perspective in national development policies and programmes. The view was expressed that the empowerment of women and the improvement of their living conditions were critical for Africa's success, which principles had also been enshrined by the African Union. Moreover, the

promotion of the role of women in all activities was one of the long-term objectives of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD).

10. Appreciation was expressed for the efforts of ECA to adjust subprogramme 7 to increase effectiveness and efficiency in meeting the Millennium Development Goals.

11. The strengthening of the statistical capacity of Member States, as envisaged in subprogramme 9, was also welcomed. Support was expressed for the strategy of subprogramme 9 regarding the provision of support to the working groups on the statistical harmonization of the Millennium Development Goals indicators, the convening of workshops and the provision of technical assistance.

12. Note was taken of the revision to subprogramme 10 and the effort to strengthen capacity to achieve poverty reduction in line with internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, through a focus on social development was welcomed. The view was expressed that the objective of subprogramme 10 to strengthen national and regional capacity in meeting the Millennium Development Goals had been threatened by the recent challenges arising from the global food crisis and climate changes. The view was also expressed that although the strategy of the subprogramme would focus on the attainment of key human and social development priorities, such as HIV/AIDS, the issue of malaria should be included as well.

Conclusions and recommendations

13. The Committee recognized the important role that ECA was playing in the implementation of NEPAD and welcomed the alignment of the Commission's overall objectives with the goals and priorities of the Partnership and its focus on the attainment of internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration and the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and international agreements.

14. The Committee urged ECA to add the current food price crisis to its priorities and devise strategies, in coordination with all role players, that would have a definite impact on food security for the poor and vulnerable population in Africa in order to avert a catastrophe and further setbacks in the achievement of the relevant Millennium Development Goals.

15. The Committee stressed the need for a more accurate and results-oriented formulation of expected accomplishments as well as quantifiable indicators of achievement in the future strategic framework of the programme.

16. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 14, Economic and social development in Africa, of the proposed biennial programme plan, subject to the following modification:

Subprogramme 4

Information and science technology for development

Objective of the Organization

After the word "evaluation", add "including at the regional level".



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
27 June 2008

Original: English

Committee for Programme and Coordination

Forty-eighth session

9 June-3 July 2008

Agenda item 8

Adoption of the report of the Committee on its forty-eighth session

Draft report

Rapporteur: Ms. Stefania Rosini (Italy)

Addendum

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2010-2011

(Item 3 (b))

Programme 15

Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific

1. At its 15th meeting, on 20 June 2008, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered programme 15, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/63/6 (Prog. 15)).
2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

3. Appreciation and support were expressed for the programme and the work of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). A view was expressed on the lengthy discussions held among the ESCAP member States during the sixty-fourth session of the Commission in April 2008 and the positive results as reflected in the revisions contained in E/AC.51/2008/CRP.1.
4. The importance was expressed of sharpening the focus of the programme of work, striving for more balance in addressing the needs of the Commission's membership and enhancing cooperation with international and regional organizations, including those within the United Nations system, to ensure greater synergies and complementarity of work. The focus of the overall orientation, in particular as detailed in paragraph 15.8, was welcomed. The view was expressed



regarding the need for further coordination of activities between ESCAP and other organizations to seek more coherence in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. Clarification was sought on the extent of efforts taken and planned in the future to ensure greater cooperation and synergies between ESCAP and regional organizations, including the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation.

5. The view was expressed that the overall orientation of the proposed biennial programme plan for the period 2010-2011 was focused more on social aspects and that a balance with the economic dimension could have been sought.

6. Clarification was sought as to the concept of "inclusive and sustainable development" introduced in the overall orientation and in several subprogrammes of the proposed biennial programme plan for 2010-2011.

7. The view was expressed that references to climate change and its impact in the region and to drought and desertification prevailing in the region had not been incorporated in the proposed biennial programme plan for 2010-2011. The importance of their inclusion in some subprogrammes, in particular in subprogramme 4, Environment and development, was noted.

8. The great diversity and disparity in the region, as evidenced by the case of the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, were observed. The view was expressed that a balanced approach was needed to ensure even development in the region.

9. Under subprogramme 4, Environment and development, it was observed that the approach to environmental issues was mainly focused on economic aspects. Clarification was sought as to the consideration given to sustainable development.

10. The new subprogramme 5, Information and communications technology and disaster risk reduction, in particular the focus on disaster risk reduction, was welcomed. Given that the Asian and Pacific region was particularly prone to natural disasters, it was emphasized that work in that area should be strengthened.

11. Questions were raised concerning the similarities of the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement of the five components of subprogramme 8, Subregional activities for development.

Conclusions and recommendations

12. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the narrative of programme 15, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, of the proposed biennial programme plan, subject to the following modifications:

Overall orientation

Paragraph 15.12

After the second sentence, add "ESCAP will pursue a balanced approach to addressing social, environmental and economic issues, including those related to trade, transport and infrastructure development, in order to promote sustainable growth and development".

Subprogramme 1
Macroeconomic policy and inclusive development

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (c), after the words, "formulate strategies for achieving the", add the words "internationally agreed development goals, including the".

Subprogramme 3
Transport

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (c), delete the words "and safety" and, at the end of the sentence, add "as well as road safety".

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (c)(i), replace the words "transport safety" with the words "road safety".



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
30 June 2008

Original: English

Committee for Programme and Coordination

Forty-eighth session

9 June-3 July 2008

Agenda item 8

Adoption of the report of the Committee on its
forty-eighth session

Draft report

Rapporteur: Ms. Stefania Rosini (Italy)

Addendum

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2010-2011

(Item 3 (b))

Programme 17

Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean

1. At its 15th meeting, on 20 June 2008, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered programme 17, Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/63/6 (Prog. 17) and Corr.1).

2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

3. Full support was expressed for programme 17 and all its subprogrammes. The work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) as a centre of excellence was also commended. It was observed that ECLAC played an important role towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. The important contribution of ECLAC in the areas of poverty eradication, enhancing regional integration and social cohesion, and strengthening gender mainstreaming in public policies was also emphasized. The vulnerability of the Latin American and Caribbean region to natural disasters and the need for adaptation and mitigation programmes in relation to climate change were acknowledged.



4. The view was expressed that the inclusion of South-South cooperation in the programme plan was important. The Committee was informed that one of the mandates that had emerged from the thirty-second session of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Santo Domingo from 9 to 13 June 2008, was to develop a methodology to measure South-South cooperation activities, and an online repository of needs and available capacities for that type of cooperation in the region, avoiding duplication and ensuring complementarity with other international organizations, such as the Latin American Economic System. Furthermore, the view was expressed that ECLAC should focus on energy efficiency and renewable energy for sustainable development and on building consensus on social cohesion in Ibero-America, with special attention to migration.

5. Clarification was sought as to how ECLAC would deal with the food crisis and its impact on the region. The Committee was informed that that issue was being fully incorporated in the current work programme of ECLAC and had also been addressed at the thirty-second session of the Commission. An organizational unit of ECLAC dealing specifically with agriculture that had partial responsibility for implementing subprogramme 2 was collaborating with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to analyse the regional dimension of the Rome Declaration on World Food Security, adopted in Rome on 5 June 2008, in preparation for a regional forum to discuss practices and policies to tackle the impact of the food crisis. Clarification was also sought as to whether the difficulties in raising extrabudgetary resources from certain Bretton Woods institutions encountered in the period 2006-2007 would affect the work programme for the period 2010-2011. Clarification was further sought with regard to the incorporation in the planning process of lessons learned from successful policy implementation and with regard to the utilization of information and communication technology in tackling natural disasters.

6. It was observed that greater cooperation and coordination were foreseen in the programme plan, and clarification was sought as to how they would be achieved. Additionally, most indicators of achievement included the phrase "in line with ECLAC recommendations" and clarification was sought as to how those recommendations would be disseminated and communicated to member countries.

7. With regard to subprogramme 2, indicator of achievement (a) (ii), the question was raised as to how member countries could benefit from "the technical cooperation activities organized by the subprogramme".

8. Support was expressed for subprogramme 4, Social development and equity, and reference to the need for a specific approach that would take account of the diversity of countries in the region. The view was also expressed that the strategy of the subprogramme complied with the agreement on the three pillars of sustainable development contained in the World Summit Outcome.

9. The mainstreaming of a gender perspective in regional development, as reflected in subprogramme 5, was commended, including promotion of the human rights of men and women. Clarification was sought as to whether there was coordination between ECLAC and the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW).

10. Under subprogramme 6, Population and development, the inclusion of international migration was welcomed.

11. Appreciation was expressed for the inclusion in subprogramme 8 of an expected accomplishment relating to enhanced capacity of the Governments of the region and other stakeholders to follow up the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.

12. Support was expressed for subprogramme 12, Subregional activities in the Caribbean, and clarification was sought as to how ECLAC could strengthen national capacity to mitigate natural disasters. The Committee was informed that ECLAC had a focal point at its subregional headquarters in Mexico to coordinate the work of the ECLAC system in assessing the socio-economic and environmental effects of natural disasters in the region and advising on risk and vulnerability reduction. ECLAC also had a network of multidisciplinary professionals, ready to respond to requests for assessment and to prepare recovery projects. Training was provided by ECLAC staff to professionals, experts and national and subregional authorities in the use of the ECLAC methodology to assess the socio-economic and environmental effects of natural disasters.

Conclusions and recommendations

13. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 17, Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean, of the proposed biennial programme plan.



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
1 July 2008

Original: English

Committee for Programme and Coordination

Forty-eighth session

9 June-3 July 2008

Agenda item 8

Adoption of the report of the Committee on its
forty-eighth session

Draft report

Rapporteur: Ms. Stefania Rosini (Italy)

Addendum

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2010-2011

(Item 3 (b))

Programme 18

Economic and social development in Western Asia

1. At its 16th meeting, on 20 June 2008, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered programme 18, Economic and social development in Western Asia, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/63/6 (Prog. 18)).
2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

3. Support was expressed for the programme and appreciation was expressed for the important role that the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) played in the region by assisting member countries in facing development challenges and formulating durable economic solutions under the prevailing political instability in the region.
4. A query was raised as to the legislative mandate of the programme to deal with issues relating to good governance. In addition, clarification was sought with regard to the specific meaning of "Promoting integrated social policies".
5. With regard to subprogramme 1, it was observed that the narrative needed to be more articulate in dealing with fragile ecosystems and the challenges facing the



region owing to water scarcity and conflicts. Furthermore, concern was expressed that there was no reference to the situation and development activities in the occupied territories. The view was expressed that consideration should be given to including the challenges relating to desertification, drought and pollution in the activities of the subprogramme.

6. The view was also expressed that consideration should be given to highlighting a gender perspective in conflict situations.

7. The importance of subprogramme 7, Conflict mitigation and development, was stressed, in particular the issue of occupation, which was an obstacle to development.

Conclusions and recommendations

8. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 18, Economic and social development in Western Asia, of the proposed biennial programme plan, subject to the following modifications:

Overall orientation

Paragraph 18.4

The first three sentences should be deleted and replaced with the following:

"The region has made varied progress in social development, especially in the education and health sectors. Some countries have developed mechanisms to invest surplus capital savings resulting from high energy prices, which have contributed to the acceleration of economic growth and social development. Political instability, foreign occupation and lack of adequate reform continue to influence economic performance in the countries of the region."

Paragraph 18.5

The last sentence should read:

"The Arab Ministerial Declaration stated that, while emphasizing that developed countries should fulfil their commitment to supporting developing countries, including Arab countries, in meeting climate change challenges, the Declaration affirmed the commitment of the Ministers, inter alia, to include policies to deal with climate change issues in all sectors within national and regional policies for sustainable development in a manner that harmonized with sustained economic growth and efforts to eradicate poverty, and to adopt national and regional action plans dealing with climate change."

Paragraph 18.7

After the first sentence, insert the following as the second sentence:

"Monitoring of the effects of foreign occupation on economic and social development in the region is becoming increasingly important."

Subprogramme 1

Integrated management of natural resources for sustainable development

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (b), before the words "environmentally sound technology", insert the words "appropriate and affordable".

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (b) (i), before the word "institutions", insert the words "new and/or existing".

In indicator of achievement (b) (ii), before the words "environmentally sound technology", insert the words "appropriate and affordable".

Strategy

Paragraph 18.12

In the fourth sentence, after the words "in the water", insert the word "energy".

Paragraph 18.14

At the end of subparagraph (a), add the words "especially disadvantaged groups".

Paragraph 18.15

Before the words "environmentally sound technologies", insert the words "appropriate and affordable".

Paragraph 18.16

After the words "the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Regional Office for West Asia", insert the words "the secretariat of the Convention to Combat Desertification, the secretariat of the Framework Convention on Climate Change," and before the words "secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity" delete the words "United Nations".

Subprogramme 2 Integrated social policies

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (b), before the words "the youth bulge, migration and good urban governance", insert the words "demographic changes with particular emphasis on".

In expected accomplishment (c), after the words "Enhanced participation of civil society", insert the words "in social policy dialogue and".

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (b) (ii), before the words "the youth bulge and migration", insert the words "demographic changes, with particular emphasis on".

Strategy

Paragraph 18.19

At the end of the last sentence, add the following:

" , while recognizing the role of social safety nets in maintaining social and political stability."

Paragraph 18.20

At the end of the first sentence, add the words: " , including the finding of mechanisms to finance social development."

Subprogramme 3 Economic development and integration

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (a) (i), replace the word "number" with the word "percentage".

In indicator of achievement (d) (ii), replace the phrase "based on ESCWA recommendations" with the phrase "with ESCWA assistance upon the request of member countries".

Strategy

Paragraph 18.23

At the end of subparagraph (a), add the words " , including, but not limited to, diversification of production and knowledge-based economies".

Paragraph 18.25

In the first sentence, replace the words "road, rail, maritime and multimodal transport agreements" with the words "road, rail and maritime agreements".

After the first sentence, insert the following as the second sentence:

"The subprogramme will work closely with the League of Arab States for the development and implementation of a regional multimodal transport agreement for the Arab region in anticipation of the finalization of the draft convention on contracts for the international carriage of goods wholly or partly by sea (United Nations Commission on International Trade Law draft convention)."

Paragraph 18.26

In the first sentence, replace the words "through South-South cooperation" with the words "in line with regional economic agreements such as the Greater Arab Free Trade Area (GAFTA), with special emphasis on South-South cooperation".

Paragraph 18.27

In the last sentence, after the words "governmental and non-governmental bodies", insert the words ", including GCC and the League of Arab States,".

**Subprogramme 4
Information and communications technology for
regional integration**

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (a), replace the word "sector" with the words "production and service sectors".

At the end of expected accomplishment (a), add the phrase ", with special focus on the provision of e-services in Arabic".

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (a) (i), replace the word "sector" with the words "production and service sectors".

Strategy

Paragraph 18.28

Replace the last sentence with the following:

"With continued monitoring of activities pertaining to the World Summit on the Information Society Geneva Plan of Action and Tunis Agenda for the Information Society and the efforts made to implement the ESCWA Regional Plan of Action for Building the Information Society, in harmonization with the Arab ICT Strategy of the League of Arab States, the subprogramme will strive to adapt the Summit outcomes to better serve the region and fine-tune plans of action in order to build an inclusive, people-centred information society that is based on productive national ICT sectors."

Paragraph 18.30

In the first sentence, after the words “national capacity”, insert the words “, with special focus on human resources development,”.

Paragraph 18.32

At the end of the first sentence, replace the phrase “fund-raising efforts aimed at harnessing ICT for socio-economic development” with the phrase, “efforts aimed at harnessing science and technology, particularly ICT, for socio-economic development”.

**Subprogramme 5
Statistics for evidence-based policymaking**

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (a), replace the words “where statistics are not fully developed” with the words “that are less statistically developed”.

In expected accomplishment (b), before the words “gender-disaggregated data”, insert the words “Millennium Development Goal indicators and”.

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (a) (i), replace the words “where statistics are not fully developed” with the words “that are less statistically developed”.

In indicator of achievement (b) (ii), after the words “national statistical offices”, add the words “with ESCWA assistance”.

Add the following new indicator of achievement:

“(b) (iii) Increased percentage of statistical experts who applied the knowledge and skills gained through ESCWA training at the national level”.

Strategy

Paragraph 18.33

At the end of the last sentence, replace the words “the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements” with the words “the Istanbul Declaration on measuring the progress of societies”.

Paragraph 18.34

In item (b), the words “produce and disseminate” should read “produce, analyse and disseminate”.

Paragraph 18.35

In the second sentence of subparagraph (c), replace the words “where statistics are not fully developed” with the words “that are less statistically developed”.

Paragraph 18.36

Replace the first sentence with the following:

"In the second area, the subprogramme will continue upgrading the knowledge and skills of the national statistical offices in increasing the availability, frequency and timeliness of core socio-economic statistics, and in adopting new and revised economic and social international classifications and standards. The subprogramme will contribute to the production of accurate, relevant and timely trade in goods and services statistics and sectoral statistics, and the implementation of the System of National Accounts, 1993 and its revision, with a special focus on the informal sector and the system of quarterly national accounts."

At the end of the last sentence, insert the phrase, "and the identification of regional approaches to measure societal progress that complement the traditional Millennium Development Goal monitoring framework".

Subprogramme 6 Advancement of women

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator (b) (i) with the following: "Increased number of voluntary measures taken by member countries, with ESCWA assistance provided in response to their request, to review and adjust laws in conformity with the Convention".

In indicator of achievement (b) (ii), after the words "local media interventions", insert the words "with ESCWA assistance,".

*Strategy**Paragraph 18.39*

In the third sentence, after the word "has" and before the word "deteriorated", delete the word "further". After the word "deteriorated", insert the words "in some countries of the region,".

Paragraph 18.41

Replace the last sentence with the following: "In response to the expressed needs of member countries, the subprogramme will aim to enhance the capacity of those stakeholders to address critical issues and take concrete measures in that regard."

Paragraph 18.42

In the last sentence, after the words "Arab Women Organization" delete the words "of Jordan".

Subprogramme 7 Conflict mitigation and development

Strategy

Paragraph 18.43

Delete the paragraph and replace with the following:

“The responsibility for implementing the subprogramme lies with the Section for Emerging and Conflict-Related Issues. Ongoing conflicts or political tensions in Iraq, Lebanon, Palestine and Yemen involving the competing interests of regional and international dynamics have profoundly affected stability as well as reversed development in a number of member countries. Those challenges are coupled with the slow development of democratic public institutions and application of human rights and civic standards. That situation continues to create a host of social, economic and political challenges, including growing inter- and intra-community tensions, the continuous influx of displaced persons and the rise of non-State actors in a number of member countries. The combination of those factors is likely to negatively affect the future of the region’s youth and to pose serious impediments to civic and public actors in addressing challenges in the spheres of good governance and the environment, including the dangers posed by the scarcity of water and global warming”.

Paragraph 18.44

In item (b), replace the words “civic values” with the words “values of citizenship”.

Paragraph 18.45

In the second sentence, after the words “unleashed by conflict”, insert the word “, occupation”.

In the penultimate sentence, replace the words “conflict areas” with the words “conflict and occupation”.

Paragraph 18.46

The first sentence should read:

“In the second area, the subprogramme will explore the application of principles of good governance, based on the internationally agreed upon human rights principles, including values of citizenship, while taking due consideration of the region’s historical and cultural specificities.”

In the second sentence, replace the words “civic values” with the words “values of citizenship”.